

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
/6B2005/000056A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B5/0488 A61B18/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 662 108 A (BUDD ET AL) 2 September 1997 (1997-09-02) column 3, line 26 - column 5, line 34 column 11, line 44 - column 12, line 7 -----	1-10
X	US 6 163 716 A (EDWARDS ET AL) 19 December 2000 (2000-12-19) column 3, line 45 - column 5, line 12 column 13, line 38 - column 15, line 3 -----	1-9
A	US 2003/204149 A1 (STRENG TOMI ET AL) 30 October 2003 (2003-10-30) the whole document -----	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document relating to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"Z" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentkanal 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 540-3040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax. (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Manschot, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No.
682005/000056

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5662108	A	02-09-1997	US 6240307 B1 29-05-2001
			US 5297549 A 29-03-1994
			US 5311866 A 17-05-1994
			US 2003176799 A1 18-09-2003
			US 6728562 B1 27-04-2004
			AT 160273 T 15-12-1997
			CA 2144973 A1 31-03-1994
			CA 2447239 A1 31-03-1994
			DE 69315354 D1 02-01-1998
			DE 69315354 T2 19-03-1998
			EP 0661948 A1 12-07-1995
			JP 8501477 T 20-02-1996
			JP 3581888 B2 27-10-2004
			JP 2004209262 A 29-07-2004
			WO 9406349 A1 31-03-1994
			US 6826420 B1 30-11-2004
			US 6826421 B1 30-11-2004
			US 6647617 B1 18-11-2003
US 6163716	A	19-12-2000	US 6052607 A 18-04-2000
			US 5871443 A 16-02-1999
			US 5509419 A 23-04-1996
			US 5309910 A 10-05-1994
			US 6357447 B1 19-03-2002
			US 5991650 A 23-11-1999
			US 5904680 A 18-05-1999
			WO 9407411 A1 14-04-1994
US 2003204149	A1	30-10-2003	AU 2003216766 A1 17-11-2003
			EP 1499238 A1 26-01-2005
			WO 03092501 A1 13-11-2003